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Written Opinion of the Inter-
national Searching Authority

PCT/EP2005/050320
Appended Sheet

Regarding Point V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

- 1 Reference is made to the following documents:
D1 : DE 101 53 484 A1 (VCS VIDEO COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS AG) May 8, 2003 (2003-05-08)
D2 : Computer Networks (Andrew S. Tannenbaum), 2003
- 2 The present application does not satisfy the requirements of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject matter of Claim 1 is not novel within the meaning of Article 33(2) PCT.

Document D1 discloses (the references in parentheses relate to this document) :

A data gathering/data processing device for video/audio signals (§47) which includes a plurality of signal processors (§48),

in which the signal processors (Figure 1, No.'s 26a-26c) or a subset of the signal processors (Figure 1, No.'s 26a-26c) are coupled to a network* having a star-shaped topology (Figure 1, No.'s 28a-28c).

* The designation "network" is interpreted according to the specification.

3 The dependent Claims 2-13 do not include any features that, in combination with the features of any claim to which they relate, satisfy the requirements of the PCT with regard to novelty and inventive step, respectively:

3.1 For the Ethernet standard in Claims 5 and 6 in a network having star-shaped topology, we refer to D2, page 327, line 8 to page 328, line 9.